

*Sharing of the Peace.*

*You may be seated.*

**Offering**

*Please stand.*

**Offertory:** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*..... page 86

**Pastor:** Merciful Father,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving:** .....page 88

**The Lord's Prayer** .....page 91

*You may be seated.*

**Ministration of Holy Communion**

**Pre-Communion Hymn:** *Lamb of God*.....page 92

**Communion Hymns:** ..... Grey Hymn Book #s, 229, 476, 622

*Please stand*

**Post Communion Canticle:** *Thank the Lord* .....page 92

**Prayer:**.....page 94

**Benediction:** page 95

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**Closing Hymn:** *I Will Sing of the Mercies* .....from Psalm 89:1

James H. Fillmore; arranged by David McDonald

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever, I will sing, I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever. I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness.

With my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness to all generations

**Postlude**

**Pastor: Steve Bang**

**Organist/Pianist: Sandy Damm**

**Usher: John Haugen**

**Lectionary: Janet Haugen**

**Acolyte: Paris Reimann**

**Welcome to West Prairie Lutheran Church!**

**Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ (LCMC) Synod**

**40041 150th Ave., P.O. Box 9, Leland, IA 50453 . . . . Steve Bang, pastor**

Please sign the attendance sheets located at the end of each pew. If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address, and we invite you to join us again!

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**11 a.m.—September 4, 2016**

**Service of Holy Communion for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost**

All who are baptized in the Christian faith and have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

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**Prelude**

**Pastoral Greeting**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness** ..... page 77

**Opening Hymn:** *God Himself is Present* ..... LBW #249

**Kyrie** ..... page 78

**Hymn of Praise** ..... page 81

**Prayer of the Day**

**(All) Almighty and eternal God, You know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In Your love and by Your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

**First Lesson:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before your life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice,

and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**Psalm 1** (responsively)

L: Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked

**C: or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,**

L: but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,

**C: and who meditates on his law day and night.**

L: That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season

**C: and whose leaf does not wither-- whatever they do prospers.**

L: Not so the wicked!

**C: They are like chaff that the wind blows away.**

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

**C: nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**

L: For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,

**C: but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.**

**Second Lesson:** Philemon, verses 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker— also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all His holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is

very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

*Please stand*

**Alleluia** ..... page 83

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 14:25-35

**Response:** *Glory to You, O Lord* ..... page 83

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them He said: "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple.

"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'

"Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be My disciples.

"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.

"Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

**Response:** *Praise to You, O Christ* ..... page 83

*You may be seated.*

**The Sermon:** Pastor Steve Bang

"The Cost of Discipleship" Luke 14:25-35

**Hymn:** *Take My Life, that I May Be* ..... LBW #406

*Please stand*

**Nicene Creed** ..... page 84

**Prayer**

**Congregational response:** Hear our prayer.

... ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

**Wednesday, Sept. 7**

7 p.m. Sarah Circle at the church

7 p.m. Naomi Circle with Lisa Durby

**Sunday, Sept. 11**

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:15-10:45 a.m. Fellowship

11 a.m. Worship Service

7 p.m. Youth Group

**Cry Out America!**—Sunday, Sept. 11, 5 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church in Forest City (one block north of Forest City Foods). Cry Out America is a grassroots prayer movement formed in response to our nation’s “9/11 Wake-Up Call.” This is a time of God’s people coming together to seek His face in this critical hour for our nation.

**Confirmation Class** — Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 3 p.m. (This date was inadvertently omitted on the Sept. calendar.)

**Sept. 18th** — Sunday services at West Prairie are at 8:30 a.m. for that day only.

**Sunday School** — Rally Sunday on Sept. 18th starts the fall season for youth Sunday School. A presentation of the curriculum will be held on Sept. 25th.

**Sion Lutheran Fall Festival** — Everyone is invited to the Fall Festival on Sunday, Sept. 18th beginning with worship service at 11 a.m. followed by a dinner, games, and other activities. See newsletter for more info and poster on bulletin board.

**Baby Shower** — A baby shower will be held for Britta Ehlers and Cody Reimann at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24th, West Prairie fellowship hall.

**Prayer List** — Jonie Bang, Candy Johnson, Donnie Jensen, Elaine Ritz, Carver Moffat, Angela Haugen, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Roger Peterson, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil. All prayer requests can be submitted to [www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer](http://www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer); leave a message on the church answering system @ 641-567-3733; or call Pastor Steve @ 641-590-7894.

**SERMON NOTES . . .**

**“The Cost of Discipleship” Luke 14:25-35**

1. “Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them He said, ‘If anyone comes to Me and does not hate His father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters — yes, even his own life — he cannot be my \_\_\_\_\_. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow Me cannot be My \_\_\_\_\_. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my \_\_\_\_\_.’” (Lk. 14:25-27, 33)
2. A disciples is a true follower of Jesus. A disciples and a \_\_\_\_\_ should be considered the same thing.
3. Many people today look to Jesus to solve their money problems, relationship problems, health problems and other problems, but quickly grow disillusioned and \_\_\_\_\_ to obey Jesus when following Him requires sacrifice.
4. To be a disciple of Jesus you must be committed to Him above \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In Jewish culture, the word “\_\_\_\_\_” was used to express lesser love, so Jesus was saying we must love Him much more than we love our families.
6. Jesus is not speaking of our emotional feelings toward Him or our families but rather He is speaking of our level of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Jesus used the illustration of carrying the cross to show us that following Him requires that same kind of saying “\_\_\_\_\_” to our will and desires.
8. Jesus doesn’t want a half-hearted commitment that expects only \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Luther said: “A religion that gives nothing, \_\_\_\_\_ nothing, and suffers nothing, is \_\_\_\_\_ nothing.”
10. Cheap grace does more \_\_\_\_\_ than good.
11. Jesus says we must be \_\_\_\_\_ to renounce or forsake anything when it interferes with following Him faithfully. . . . Are you willing? . . .